

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAHORE 00641 160540Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCA-01 DHA-02 SY-05
CU-02 SCS-03 /063 W
-----160553Z 086951 /17

O R 160430Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL LAHORE
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1309
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL KARACHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, PINT, US, PK
SUBJECT: DETENTION OF AMERICAN JOURNALIST

REF: GAMON-TRIPPETT TELECON, JUNE 15

1. IN LATE AFTERNOON JUNE 15, SIMON WINCHESTER, CORRESPONDENT FOR THE LONDON GUARDIAN, CALLED CONGEN TO STATE THAT HE HAD JUST ARRIVED FROM NEW DELHI ON THE AFTERNOON PLANE WITH LEWIS SIMONS OF THE WASHINGTON POST WHO HAD BEEN DENIED ENTRY INTO PAKISTAN BY AUTHORITIES AT AIRPORT. WINCHESTER SAID SIMONS WAS NOT ALLOWED USE OF TELEPHONE.

2. CONGEN SENT CONSULAR OFFICER TO AIRPORT. HE WAS ABLE TO SPEAK TO SIMONS WHO SAID IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES TOLD HIM HE WAS "BANNED" FROM PAKISTAN, AND WOULD HAVE TO GO BACK TO NEW DELHI ON RETURN FLIGHT LATER IN EVENING. WHEN SIMONS POINTED OUT THAT HE RECENTLY HAD BEEN ALLOWED INTO PAKISTAN ON AIRPORT VISA GRANTED AT LAHORE, AUTHORITIES TOLD HIM THERE HAD BEEN A MISTAKE AND OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR IT
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HAD BEEN DISCIPLINED. SIMONS SAID IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES REFUSED TO TELL HIM WHY HE WAS BANNED. SIMONS DECLINED TO RETURN TO NEW DELHI ON THE JUNE 15 PLANE AND IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES SAID HE WOULD HAVE THEN TO REMAIN AT AIRPORT AND RETURN ON AFTERNOON FLIGHT ON JUNE 16.

3. CONGEN OFFICER WAS UNABLE TO ELICIT ANY ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION FROM AUTHORITIES OTHER THAN THAT SIMONS' NAME WAS ON A LIST THAT INCLUDED OTHER AMERICANS AND THAT THEY WERE ACTING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS. THEY SEEMED UNEASY OVER HAVING TO HOLD SIMONS AND APPARENTLY EXTENDED WHATEVER COMFORTS THEY COULD AT AIRPORT. THESE INCLUDED REFRESHMENTS AND USE OF OFFICE WHICH CONTAINED A COUCH ON WHICH SIMONS COULD SLEEP.

4. ON SECOND VISIT LATER IN EVENING SIMONS TOLD CONGEN OFFICER HE HAD DECIDED TO TAKE JUNE 16 AFTERNOON PLANE TO NEW DELHI. HE SAID THERE WAS NOTHING NEEDED FROM CONGEN.

5. DURING MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, CONGEN RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM CRAMER, ASSOCIATED PRESS IN ISLAMABAD, WHO WAS AWARE OF SIMONS' DETENTION AND ASKED FOR DETAILS. CONGEN TOLD CRAMER MERELY THAT SIMONS HAD NOT BEEN GRANTED ENTRY, HAD BEEN GIVEN NO REASON, AND CONGEN OFFICER HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH HIM.

6. WE WILL REMAIN IN CONTACT WITH SIMONS AND REPORT ANY DEVELOPMENTS.

GAMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAHORE00641
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770214-1088
Format: TEL
From: LAHORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770651/aaaabsiu.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2305077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2131833
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DETENTION OF AMERICAN JOURNALIST
TAGS: CASC, PINT, US, PK, (SIMONS, LEWIS)
To: ISLAMABAD
Type: TE
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